

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

HOW A COUNTY AGENT OBTAINED FARM LABOR FROM TOWNS.

College Park, Md., April 25, 1918.

Dr. Bradford Knapp, Chief,
States Relations Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Knapp:

As a matter of information concerning the possibilities of developing community spirit to aid in the labor problem, I like to report that Mr. Thos. L. Smith, our County Agent in Washington County, has been able to perfect a town organization of business men with farmers for the purpose of enrolling volunteers from the industrial plants in Hagerstown to aid in emergency for harvesting crops this summer.

The organization got out the inclosed card as a registration blank, and they have now 150 signed up, who have pledged themselves to help in the situation.

It is one of the concrete cases where the business men are realizing the importance in aiding in the labor situation and perfecting arrangements for its accomplishment.

I understand the Bureau of Labor is just considering the enrollment of such volunteers in several counties, and, of course, they are using their own cards. I thought I would send you this, however, to show you the initiative of the local people in the matter. Of course, we presented the proposition to them at a joint meeting of representatives.

I may add that I was at Hagerstown on Tuesday, and was very much gratified in hearing the most favorable reports made by farmers and business men on the splendid results accomplished by Mr. Smith during the past year. We are hoping to secure a substantial appropriation from the county to aid in the work. I am,

Very truly yours,

THOS. B. SYMONS,

Director, Maryland State College of Agriculture.

THIS WAS THE FORM USED IN ENROLLING VOLUNTEER FARM WORKERS.

FARM EXPERIENCE

Food production must be kept up. Our boys and our allies cannot
fight unless we keep them supplied with food.

Name Address

Where now employed Age.....

Were you born on farm..... How many years have you worked on farm.....

What kind of farm work have you done.....

Will you help for a few days to get in crops if necessary.....

Your pay will be.....

and you will receive free board and lodging. You surely want to do your bit to aid the crops.

.....

